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26 November 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence  
Deputy Director for Intelligence  
Deputy Director for Operations  
Deputy Director for Science and Technology  
Deputy to the DCI for the Intelligence  
Community  
Deputy to the DCI for National Intelligence  
Officers

SUBJECT : FOIA and Privacy Trends

1. Attached are two charts which provide a current focus on the trends of Agency resources resulting from the legislative imperatives with FOIA and the Privacy Act. Attachment A provides a ten-month review of FOIA requests and our ability to respond. The charts indicate that we reached our peak of incoming requests in July when we were receiving an average of 85 requests per working day. Since July there has been a steady decline of letters, even with the implementation of the Privacy Act, which became effective 27 September 1975. There is, hopefully, some light at the end of the tunnel, in that for the past two months our responses have kept pace or exceeded the incoming requirements and our backlog of incompletd cases is now down to 1,715 cases.

2. We have logged our 7,000th Privacy and FOIA case for this calendar year. Our statistics point out that we do locate information on approximately 16 to 20 percent of the requests, and that one in four of the substantive replies results in an appeal. At the present time the Agency has 28 cases in litigation.

3. Attachment B shows the manpower requirements resulting from this legislation and the approximate salary costs. During the peak period we had the equivalent of 100 people working full time on FOIA. I would estimate that with our present backlog, complexity of many of our ongoing cases, and the high appeal rate, that the heavy manpower requirements will continue for the foreseeable future. I believe our requests for FOIA and Privacy information have leveled off at about 10 to 15 per day. However,

over the next few months the workload demands will shift to some extent from initial responses to the appeal and litigation efforts. It is envisioned that our efforts in this regard will require less search personnel but will put a greater demand on senior officials and the legal expertise within the Agency.

/s/ John F. Blake

John F. Blake  
Deputy Director  
for  
Administration

2 Atts

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